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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 MSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 IO-14 SCS-03

SCA-01 M-02 A-01 OPR-02 SY-04 OC-06 CCO-00 SCCT-02

SAM-01 DRC-01 /142 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4914

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
RECEIVED BY *WJ* 8 MAY 1992
FORWARDED BY *WJ*

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, GR, CY

SUBJECT: CYPRUS CRISIS - SITUATION REPORT #2

1. ATHENS CONTINUES QUIET BUT SOMBER. NEWS MEDIA REPORTING ON TURKISH OFFENSIVE ACTIONS, UNSC RESOLUTION, AND FM CARAMANLIS STATEMENT INTERRUPTS OTHERWISE NORMAL RADIO/TV PROGRAMMING. AFTERNOON PRESS DIVIDED FRONTPAGE FOCUS BETWEEN "TURKEY ATTACKS CYPRUS: AND "GREECE LEAVES NATO." ALL NEWSPAPERS QUOTE FM CARAMANLIS STATEMENT ON CYPRUS HOSTILITIES (ATHENS 5675) AND MAVROS' REMARKS BEFORE LEAVING GENEVA THAT "ALLIANCE NO LONGER HAS REASON TO EXIST." APOGYMATINI SPECULATED THAT LAST MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY TO CARAMANLIS CONTAINED ADVICE THAT U.S. WILL NO LONGER GRANT AID TO GREECE IN DISPUTE WITH TURKEY. SAME NEWSPAPER WROTE THAT AMERICA "ENCOURAGES THE ASSASSINS" AS EVIDENCED BY US STATEMENT (STATE 176949) SUPPORTING GREATER AUTONOMY FOR TURKISH CYPRIOTS. THREE OTHER NEWSPAPERS CARRIED SAME STORY UNDER HEADLINE "US SUPPORTS AUTONOMY FOR TURKS." ATHENAIKI (LIBERAL/LEFT) RAN HEADLINES "AMERICA HAS BETRAYED US-- SEEKS PARTITION," AND "SOVIETS SUPPORT CYPRUS."

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2. SEVERAL HUNDRED AMERICAN TOURISTS HAVE VISITED EMBASSY TO REGISTER AND TO READ NEWS BULLETINS PREPARED HOURLY BY CONSULAR SECTION. AMCITS ACCEPTING STOICALLY NEWS OF INTERRUPTION OF TRAVEL PLANS AND FEW HAVE INDICATED INTEREST IN ATTEMPTING TO LEAVE GREECE VIA BOAT TO BRINDISI, ITALY, WHICH IS ONLY SECURE MEANS OF DEPARTING GREECE AT THIS TIME. FERRIES TO GREEK ISLANDS CONTINUE TO OPERATE.

3. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED NUMBER OF TELEPHONE CALLS AND LETTERS FROM ANGERED AND FRUSTRATED GREEKS WHO WANT TO REGISTER THEIR VIEW THAT U.S. HAS BETRAYED GREECE BY ALLOWING TURKISH INVASION SECOND TIME.

4. TOP-LEVEL MEETINGS OF GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY OFFICERS ARE STILL TAKING PLACE. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ADJOURNED ABOUT 1:30 P.M. WITH ANNOUNCEMENT THAT CABINET APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY PRIME MINISTER'S POLICY RE NEW CYPRUS CRISIS. PM HAS REPORTEDLY RECEIVED ASSURANCES OF SUPPORT FROM FORMER PREMIERS KANELLOPOULOS AND STEPHANOPOULOS AND ACCORDING TO AFP HAS CALLED A "NATIONAL COUNCIL" MEETING OF FORMER PREMIERS THIS AFTERNOON TO CONSIDER ACTION IN CURRENT CRISIS.

5. ATHENS RADIO CARRIED MESSAGE FROM KING CONSTANTINE EXPRESSING HOPE THAT ALL GREEKS WILL UNITE AND WITH BACKING OF WELL-PREPARED ARMED FORCES GIVE SUPPORT TO PM CARAMANLIS. KING DENOUNCED TURKISH ATTACK AND CALLED ON CIVILIZED NATIONS TO AID IN FINDING JUST SOLUTION.

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